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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT and REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Lisa Adams on September 13, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

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In claim 1, line 5, delete the word "a" and insert the phrase - - at least one - -; in the same line, after the word "the", insert the word - - at - -; in line 6, before the word "barrier", insert the phrase - - least one - -, in ^{line 6} ~~lines 6 and 7~~, after the word "being", insert the phrase - - coupled to at least one conductor that is effective to deliver an electric current to the at least one barrier to - -; in line ⁶ ~~7~~, delete the word "removable" and insert the phrase - - remove the barrier - -; and in line ⁶ ~~7~~ after the word "to", delete the phrase "each of".

In claim 3, line 2, after the word "of", delete the word "a" and insert the word - - an - -; in line 3, before the word "to", delete the word "stimulus" and insert the phrase - - electric current - -; and in line 4, after the word "carry", delete the word "an" and insert the word - - the - -.

In claim 6, line 1, after the word "the", delete the phrase "stimulus is an electric current, and the".

In claim 8, line 3, after the word "of", delete the phrase "a stimulus" and insert the phrase - - an electric current - -, in lines 3 and 4, after the word

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"through", delete the phrase "a plurality of" and insert the phrase - - of the at least one - -.

In claim 11, line 4, after the word "to", insert the phrase - - send an electric current through at least one conductor to - -; in line 5, after the word "disintegrate", delete the word "a" and insert the phrase - - at least one - -; and in the same line, after the word "from", delete the phrase "a row of" and insert the phrase - - at least one - -.

In claim 13, delete the number "12" and insert the number - - 11 - -.

In claim 14, delete number "12" and insert number - - 11 - -.

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In claim 15, line 5, delete the word "selected" and insert the phrase - - at least one of the - -; ^{line 6} in ~~lines 6 and 7~~, after the word "being", insert the phrase - - coupled to an energy source that is adapted to deliver energy to the barrier to - -; in line ⁶ ~~7~~, after word "selectively", delete the word "disintegratable" and insert the phrase - - disintegrate the barrier - -; in the same line, after the word "to", delete the phrase "each of the selected" and insert "the at least one", and in line ⁶ ~~8~~, delete the words "ports" and insert the word - - port - -.

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above amendments overcome the pending rejections. Accordingly, all pending claims are allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should